

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5 1. A method of using a programmable display to convey a plurality of pieces of information, the method comprising:

 locating the display on a mobile platform; and

 programming the display to display at least one of plurality of different pieces of information, whereby the display replaces a non-alterable, fixed message sign on the mobile platform.

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 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of pieces of information includes a plurality of differing sign images.

15 3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the plurality of sign images includes at least one or more of:

 an exit sign image, a lavatory sign image, a lavatory occupied sign image, a lavatory not occupied sign image, a no smoking sign image, a return to seat sign image, and a fasten seat belt sign image.

20 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of pieces of information to includes a graphic symbol.

 5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising electromagnetically coupling a controller to the display.

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 6. The method according to claim 5, further comprising signaling the display to change which of the plurality of pieces of information the display displays

30 7. The method according to claim 5, further comprising modifying the plurality of pieces of information.

8. An apparatus comprising:
a display supported on an area of a mobile platform;
a memory in communication with the display to store a plurality of
differing pieces of information; and

5 a circuit coupled to the memory to select one of the pieces of
information to appear on the display, the circuit being operable to change the
information displayed on the display in accordance with a newly selected piece of
said stored information, and wherein the apparatus replaces a non-alterable sign
on the mobile platform.

10 9. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the plurality of
pieces of information include a plurality of sign images.

15 10. The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the plurality of
sign images includes one or more of:

an exit sign image, a lavatory sign image, a lavatory occupied sign
image, a lavatory not occupied sign image, a no smoking sign image, a return to
seat sign image, and a fasten seat belt sign image.

20 11. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the plurality of
pieces of information include a graphic symbol.

25 12. The apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising a
data port electromagnetically coupled to one or more of the circuit and the
memory.

30 13. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the data port
operates to accept a signal, the signal operating to change which of the plurality
of pieces of information the display is to display.

14. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the data port
operates to accept a signal, the signal operating to modify the plurality of pieces
of information.

15. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the data port further comprising a wireless data port.

5 16. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the data port further comprises a hard wired device.

17. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the display further comprises an organic electroluminescent device.

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18. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the area of the aircraft further comprises an interior area of the aircraft.

15 19. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the display is dedicated for a particular message in any language.